By the King.

THe Zeale and great affection, which we haue found in all ſorts of people of this our Kingdome towards our Perſon, and that Right which we had to the ſucceſſion of this Crowne, hath ſo many wayes bene expreſſed, as we cannot chuſe but make it manifeſt to them all by ſome publique declaration, how great a deſire it hath wrought in our heart to ſhew our gracious acceptation of their deuotion towards vs, whenſoeuer there ſhall be offered either occaſion or ſubiect, that may concerne their vniuerſall good. For though it be true, that our Right was ſo aſſured, that whatſoeuer teſtimonie could thereof be vttered, was but the duetie of Subiects, acknowledging that faith and loyalty whereunto by the Lawes of God and Nature they were bound: yet do we confeſſe, that there is in the true rules of Juſtice from the Soueraigne to the Subiect, a reciprocall office and reſpect, which they are bound in honour and conſcience to obſerue. The conſideration whereof, hath moued vs to thinke of ſuch wayes, as for the preſent did occurre vnto vs, wherein wee might make manifeſt to our people, how willing we are now, & will be ready hereafter, to be as forward in requiting their loue, as they haue bin in expreſſing it. In which conſideration while we were buſied, we were informed that the Queene our Siſter deceaſed, finding ſome few yeeres before her death, that ſome things had paſſed her hand at the importunitie of her ſeruants, whō ſhe was willing to reward with litle burden to her eſtate (otherwiſe by neceſſary occaſions exhauſted,) which though they had and might haue foundation in Princely prerogatiue, yet either by too large extending thereof, or for the moſt part in reſpect that they were of ſuch nature, as could hardly be put in vſe without hinderance to multitudes of people, or elſe committed to inferiour perſons, who in the execution therof did ſo exceedingly abuſe the ſame, as they became intollerable: Had purpoſed to reuoke all Grants of that nature, and did beginne with ſome, which were held moſt vniuſt, putting the reſt to the examination of her Lawes to ſtand or fal, as in the conſtruction of Law they might conſiſt, or not. We, who though we had neuer had ſuch an example, were euer oppoſite in our owne nature to any thing that had colour of oppreſſion, holde it our part not onely carefully to perfect all her good intentions, but to ſtudy further by all good meanes, & with all expedition to put in practiſe all other courſes whereby a people ſo louing, ſo dutifull, and ſo deare vnto vs, may know and feele that we are as deſirous to make them happy by our Juſtice and grace towards them in all reaſonable things, as they haue bene ready to increaſe our comfort and contentment in yeelding their loyalty and obedience towards our eſtabliſhment in thoſe Rights, which vnder God wee doe enioy. Therefore we doe expreſſly charge and command all perſons whatſoeuer, That from henceforth they vtterly deſiſt and forbeare to vſe or execute any maner of Charter or Graunt made by our late Siſter the Queene deceaſed, of any kind of Monopolies, or of any power or Licence to diſpence with, or diſcharge any maner of penall Lawes (except ſuch Grants onely, as haue bene made to any Corporation or Company of any Art or Myſterie, or for the maintenance or enlargement of any trade of merchandize) vntill ſuch time as the ſame Charter or Grant ſhall be examined & allowed of by vs, with the aduiſe of our Counſell, to bee fit to be put in execution, without any preiudice to our louing Subiects. And where heretofore many haue bene greatly preiudiced and delayed in ſuing for their debts and other dueties by ſundry kind of Protections, & by pretence of other Priuiledges and exemptions: We charge and command, and our expreſſe wil and pleaſure is, That no Protection, Priuiledge or exemption to delay any perſons Suite or Action, ſhall from henceforth be receiued or allowed in any our Courts or elſ where, which are or ſhall be contrary or repugnant to the Lawes of this Realme.

And furthermore, we will and command, that no aſſignements of Debts or Actions be made vnto vs by any that is, or pretendeth to bee indebted vnto vs, who is otherwiſe able and ſufficient by himſelfe, or by his Sureties, readily to pay the ſame Debt, nor any aſſignement taken to our vſe of any Debt, other thē ſuch, as ſhal then appeare to be a iuſt & true Debt. And for that wee are certainely informed of many great diſorders and abuſes, to the great griefe of our louing Subiects

as well by Salt-petermen and such as haue or pretend to haue Commission and Authoritie to make Salt-peter, as also by sundrie Purueyors and Takers of Carts and other prouisions for our vse and seruice: Therefore we doe expresly charge and command, that the said Salt-petermen, Purueyors & Takers, haue especiall care to execute their Offices and Authorities without any maner of oppression, grieuance or wrong to be done to any our louing Subiects. And if they that haue the Commissions, shal abuse the execution of them contrarie to this our declaration, We are pleased that such, as shall be grieued therewith, shal resort to vs or our Councell with their complaints. And we doe also giue expresse charge and commandement to all Lawyers, Atturneies, Officers and Clarkes, of and in any our Courts of Justice whatsoeuer, Ecclesiasticall or Temporal, that they nor any of them extort or take any vndue or excessiue fees, but such onely as are allowed to be had or taken in the same Courts. And to the ende that our pleasure and commaundement may bee duely and effectually performed, and obserued in the premises: Wee doe hereby notifie and declare, that whosoeuer shall presume to breake or violate in any thing aforesaid our Royall commandements, they shall thereby incurre our indignation and displeasure, And that vpon complaint and proofe thereof made, we will not faile to proceede to such seuere punishment against such offenders according to their demerits, as shalbe fit for so high and contemptuous an offence. These graces aboue specified, as we doe presently extend to our people, and doe intend others hereafter when we shal vnderstand more particularly wherein we may yeelde them comfort: So because things wel-meant may in the maner of the execution of them be abused; and Complaints grounded vpon iust causes, may in the craiuing of remedie be accompanied with offensiue proceedings, We haue thought good to admonish our Subiects, that wee doe expect at their hands, that if in the things aboue specified, or in any other wherwith they shal find themselues grieued (which haue not yet come to our knowledge) they shall haue cause to seeke any thing at our hands, they shall forbeare all assembling and flocking together in multitudes, but shall in lawfull and decent maner without numbers, without clamor, or any other kind of disorder, resort to vs or our Councell by way of humble Petition; from whome they shall receiue such answere, as shal make manifest the zeale we haue to the obseruation of Justice, and maintenance of their welfare, if their Complaints be iust. And on the other side, if we shal perceiue that their petitions shal sauour of humor, and tend onely to slaunder and calumniation, and indeed haue no other foundation but such as often happeneth in vulgar people, vnder pretence of seeking publike redresses to vtter priuate malice: We would haue them vnderstand hereby, that they shall not onely displease vs therein, but finde that we hold it no lesse the Office of a Prince to protect their Magistrates and Officers, and all publique persons in their iust causes, then to giue redresse to the vulgar sort, when they haue indeede cause to complaine, against all persons how great soeuer they be in rule or dignitie vnder vs: Reseruing to our selfe the Right iustly appertaining to our Prerogatiue, for that we would not haue it conceiued, that in doing these things out of our Grace, we doe intend to renounce those ancient dueties and priuiledges, which haue descended vpon vs with the succession of our Kingdomes. And for that we are informed, that there hath bene heretofore great neglect in this Kingdome of keeping the Sabbath day: For better obseruing of the same, and auoyding of all impious prophanation of it, we do straightly charge and commaund, that no Beare-bayting, Bul-bayting, Enterludes, common Playes, or other like disordered or vnlawful Exercises or Pastimes be frequented, kept or vsed, at any time hereafter vpon any Sabbath day.

Giuen at our Court at Theobalds the 7. day of May, in the first yeere of our Reigne.

God saue the King.

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